

Eligibility Requirements

Teacher Eligibility: Initial

- A. To be eligible for an Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grant, the applicant must:
 - (1) Be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident who meets the definition of an eligible non-citizen under State Residency Statutes;
 - (2) Be a South Carolina Resident as set forth by 59-112-10;
 - (3) Hold a “professional” teaching certificate as defined and conferred by the State Department of Education; and
 - (4) Be under contract as a teacher in a SC public school;
- B. Eligible applicants must also meet one of the two following criteria regarding course of study:
 - (1) Be accepted as a degree-seeking graduate student in the teaching field at the Master’s level and be enrolled in good standing at an eligible institution, with appropriate documentation provided; or
 - (2) Be enrolled for graduate or undergraduate courses in current teaching field or in teaching field in which add-on certification is being sought, with appropriate documentation provided.
- C. In addition to the above requirements, applicants must also:
 - (1) For each \$1,000 scholarship received, sign a commitment to teach in South Carolina public schools for at least one year following completion of the scholarship grant year and to refund the scholarship amount if the one-year teaching commitment is not honored; and
 - (2) Be able to demonstrate, if a continuing graduate student, a 3.5 cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.
- D. The applicant must also certify that he/she has not defaulted and does not owe refunds on any Federal or State financial aid.
- E. The applicant must submit the Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grants Program initial application by the stipulated deadline and comply with all the directions contained therein, including a statement tying use of the scholarship to the applicant’s Goals Based Evaluation (ADEPT process) and endorsement by the school principal.

II. Teacher Eligibility: Continuing

- A. In order to continue eligibility for additional Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship grant funds in subsequent years, the applicant must comply with the following provisions:
 - (1) The student must have earned at least a B average (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) for prior courses taken with grant funds; or
 - (2) If the student is a continuing graduate student, he/she must maintain at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale.
 - (3) The student must have complied with all rules and regulations associated with the Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grant program and met all initial eligibility requirements.
 - (4) The student must sign a commitment to teach in South Carolina public schools for at least one year following completion of the scholarship grant year and agree to refund the scholarship amount if the one year teaching commitment is not honored.
- B. The applicant must submit the renewal application for another Education Lottery Teaching Scholarship Grant by the stipulated deadline and comply with all the provisions contained therein.

III. Institutional/Course Eligibility

- A. Students may access a program/course at any public or independent four-year institution whose selected program is approved by the Commission on Higher Education and by the State Board of Education.
- B. Selected course(s) may not be “contract” courses or those that carry the professional development course designator.
- C. Selected course(s) may be elected in any term, including summer, during the fiscal year which runs from July 1-June 30.
- D. Courses selected must be from programs that are fully approved by NCATE, the Commission on Higher Education, and/or the State Board of Education, as appropriate, and may NOT be in provisional or probational status by any of the three approving bodies.